

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Executive Office of Environmental Affairs 100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900 Boston, MA 02114-2119

Mitt Romney GOVERNOR

Kerry Healey LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Robert W. Golledge Jr. SECRETARY

Tel: (617) 626-1000 Fax: (617) 626-1181 http://www.mass.gov/envir

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Contact: Joe Ferson 617-626-1119

ROMNEY ADMINISTRATION ANNOUNCES MUNICIPAL SEAWALL REPAIR GRANT ROUND \$5 Million in Matching Grants Available for FY 2007

The Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), on behalf of the Romney Administration and the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs, today announced the availability of financial assistance for municipal seawall repairs. Funded by a one-time legislative appropriation in a supplemental budget, the five million dollar appropriation for Fiscal Year 2007 specifically targets construction costs related to seawall repair projects that reduce current threats to public safety.

"With more than 1,500 miles of coastline, Massachusetts is vulnerable to the damaging impacts of northeasters and hurricanes, and our coastal communities regularly experience storm damage from even minor storms," said Robert W. Golledge, Jr., Secretary of Environmental Affairs. "This \$5 million appropriation allows the Commonwealth to match municipal dollars, targeting coastal infrastructure for badly needed repairs."

Projects that can be completed by June 30, 2007 will be eligible to receive funds, which may not be used for the building of new seawalls or for other coastal structures such as jetties, groins, piers, or dunes. Also, the funds may only be used for actual construction.

Awarding of the grants will give preference - but is not restricted to - projects that exceed \$1,000,000 and that include a 50 percent local match. Applications proposing a greater local contribution to a project will be given preference. Any work continued past June 30, 2007 shall be the responsibility of the community.

Applications for seawall repair grants are due October 6, 2006 and will be handled through the DCR Office of Waterways. DCR will review all received applications and schedule an inspection of the proposed project area before any selections are made. For more information on the Municipal Seawall Repair Grant round and to access the application, please visit: www.mass.gov/dcr or contact the Office of Waterways at (781) 740-1600.

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COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION

MUNICIPAL SEAWALL REPAIR GRANT ANNOUNCEMENT

The Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) announces the availability of municipal financial assistance for seawall repairs. Five million dollars for this program have been appropriated for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2007 to be expended for the Municipal Seawall Repair Grant Program, authorized by Chapter 122 Section 2e, through the open and competitive application process with the Planning & Engineering Division, Office of Waterways. The grants are specifically for the repair of seawalls that will reduce current threats to public safety. Existing or continuing programs for other types of coastal structures or other project aspects (planning, design, etc) are not eligible for these grants. Only projects that can be completed by June 30, 2007 are eligible for funding.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this grant program is to provide financial assistance to Commonwealth coastal cities and towns pursuant to section 2850-1511 of Chapter 122 of the Acts of 2006 as follows:

"For a grant program to fund the rehabilitation, reconstruction and construction of seawalls; provided, that preference of funding for the renovation and construction of the seawalls shall be given to those areas that pose an immediate hazard to public safety"

Funds granted under this program may not be used for the building of new seawalls or for other coastal structures such as jetties, groins, piers, or dunes. Funds must be used for actual construction and may not be used for planning, design, or permitting.

ELIGIBILITY

The DCR seeks applications for projects meeting the above purpose from coastal communities acting as project manager to be conducted on lands under the care and control of the applicant community. Projects that are through all pre-construction phases and ready to bid for construction at the time of application will be considered first, projects that can complete the pre-construction phases, bid and complete the construction by June 30, 2007 shall be considered afterwards. Further, applicants must agree to fund a post-construction monitoring program to ensure any negative impacts of the seawall to the coastal environment are minimized. Project proposals must adhere to the intent of the Legislation, which states "preference of funding for the renovation and construction of the seawalls shall be given to those areas that pose an immediate hazard to public safety." This includes those projects that serve to protect built-up public infrastructure such as utilities, roads, parklands and other public facilities. Municipalities must have the remaining funds for the project costs readily available for expenditures. Municipalities must submit copies of all plans, specification and permits for bid ready projects to DCR for review and consideration. DCR shall review the application and schedule an inspection of the proposed project area to determine eligibility before selection is confirmed.

SELECTION

Selection criteria are as follows:

- Projects that have completed the application process including required documentation; including plans, specification and permits or can get an Order of Conditions in a timely fashion upon project selection.
- Projects that meet funding criteria.
- Projects that will offer the greatest protection to public health, safety and public infrastructure.
- Projects with the most severe conditions; clearly indicating potential for imminent catastrophic threat to public safety.
- Projects that commit to support a post-construction monitoring program.
- Construction funding that is readily available from the municipality.
- Ability to demonstrate that the construction will be fully completed by June 30, 2007.

FUNDING CRITERIA

This grant program will give preference to, but is not restricted to, projects that exceed \$1,000,000 and that include 50% local match. Multiple projects submitted by one town will be approved on a project-by-project basis. Local match may come from multiple sources and may not take the form of in-kind services. Applicants proposing a greater local contribution to a project will be given preference. Costs of long-term monitoring are not eligible for reimbursement.

CONTRACTING AND PAYMENT PROCESS

Communities awarded project funding must execute a Commonwealth Terms and Conditions and a Standard Contract Form issued by the Office of the Comptroller and other documents as are required. Grant payments will be made to communities on a cost reimbursement basis. The Commonwealth will accept project invoices only for work completed by the municipality and certified as appropriate by the Commonwealth.

PROGRESS/PROJECT REPORTS

Specific requirements for project documentation, progress reports and project updates for the Municipal Seawall Repair Grant Program shall be the same as is required under the Rivers & Harbors Assistance Program.

DURATION OF GRANT

Section 2e of Chapter 122 will expire on June 30, 2007. All work must be completed by that date to be eligible for reimbursement. Any and all work continuing beyond June 30, 2007 is the sole responsibility of the applicant community.

SCHEDULE

The following schedule indicates the last date of availability for each part of the scheduling process. Each item can be completed sooner than indicated.

Applications are due	October 6, 2006
DCR Inspections completed by	October 13, 2006
Selection of projects to be funded by	October 30, 2006
Grant contract documents to selected municipalities by	November 17, 2006
Grant documents returned to Waterways for processing by	December 1, 2006

APPLICATION PROCESS

Attached to this announcement is the Seawall Repair Project Application to be completed by all municipalities seeking funding through this grant announcement. Applications must be mailed to:

Martha C. King, Director of Waterways Department of Conservation & Recreation Planning & Engineering Division Office of Waterways 349 Lincoln St., Bld. #45 Hingham, MA 020473 (781) 740-1600 martha.c.king@state.ma.us

Applications received by the deadline herein will be reviewed for eligibility and then evaluated according to the criteria set forth within this announcement.

APPLICANT COMMUNICATION

Any and all questions and inquiries regarding Seawall Grants must be directed to the Office of Waterways at the address, number and E-Mail address listed above. Representatives of applicant communities are prohibited from communicating with any member of the DCR regarding their application except as directed by the Office of Waterways.

CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION

All grant contracts are subject to final negotiation of the scope and budget for a given project or municipality. Contracting periods may vary depending on each project. Payments will be made only on a reimbursement basis for construction completed by the municipality by June 30, 2007. Appropriate documentation information must be included with each payment request indicating services have been rendered.

APPLICATION

Attached is a copy of the Municipal Seawall Repair Grant Program Application. Applications can also be requested from the address above. The form requires a description of the project, a preliminary estimation of project costs, and a rough estimate of the proposed project schedule for design, permitting and construction. Submit all pertinent information regarding the project and its status with the application, such as reports, plans permits. For projects that have not commenced, the application should be accompanied by a simplified plan drawing showing the principal features of the project, as well as its location within the municipality.

It is required that a local contact person is a full time employee of the municipality, be identified by the municipality who will be directly responsible for project management at the local level, such as a Town Manager or Town/City Engineer.

The application should also include a certification of vote by the municipality's duly elected governing body, appropriating local matching funds for the project.

Completed applications or written inquiries should be submitted to the address above.

APPLICATION FOR STATE ASSISTANCE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Seawall Repair Grants
Department of Conservation and Recreation
SEAWALL REPAIR GRANTS

Project Name or Title:			
Waterway or Water-Dependen	t Facility:		
City/Town:			
Address:			
City/Town:	Zip Code:		
Telephone:	Fax:		
	ct that addresses each of the Selection Criteria including pro re; current conditions; potential for imminent threat; post-co		

PROJECT INFORMATION

Name and Type of Project:					
Total Estimated Construction Cost: _					
Proposed Local Cost Share:					
Local funds (Please identify source	ce and availability	of local i	match fundin	g):	
Source: Source:	Dat	Date Available:			
Preliminary Project Schedule:	<u>Bids</u>				
	Open Date	e:			
Clo		e:			
	<u>Constructi</u>	Construction/Implementation			
	Start Date	: <u> </u>			
	End Date:				
Specify Permits Required:		In h	and?		
□ Environmental Notification For Notice of Intent filed/ □ Water Quality Certificate appli □ Chapter 91 Permit application □ CZM Consistency Certification □ Other:	cation filed? filed?	Y Y Y Y Y Y			
Current Project Status:				(Circle one)	
Design Complete: Permits Acquired: Construction Started:		Y Y Y	N N N		